

B. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A device for assessing a degree of alignment of an antenna with a satellite comprising:

- a portable housing including a display;
- a CPU located within the housing; and
- a signal generator in communication with said CPU for generating a signal that is indicative of the degree of alignment between the antenna and the satellite, said signal generator including a satellite communications frequency tuner communicating with said CPU and a demodulator communicating with said tuner, said demodulator receiving a data stream from said tuner and extracting a bitstream therefrom and communicating said bitstream to said CPU,

wherein said CPU calculates a bit error rate (BER) value of the signal from said bitstream, calculates a carrier to noise (C/N) value of the signal from said bitstream, and calculates an overall quality of signal based on said BER value and said C/N value and said display visually indicates the BER value, ~~and the C/N value,~~ and the overall quality of signal simultaneously.

2. (previously presented) The device of claim 1 wherein said signal generator comprises:

- a converter for converting a digital audio signal generated by said CPU as a result of said bitstream into an analog signal; and

a speaker for receiving said analog signal from said converter means and generating a corresponding audio signal.

3. (original) The device of claim 2 further comprising:

an audio jack coupled to said converter; and

headphones removably attachable to said audio jack.

4. (currently amended) The device of claim 1 wherein said display visually indicates the overall quality of signal as a bar graph ~~is coupled to said CPU for displaying information relating to said alignment between the antenna and the satellite.~~

5. (currently amended) The device of claim 4 wherein said display also displays ~~information relating to said alignment between the antenna and the satellite includes satellite identity, current measured BER value of said signal, current C/N value of said signal, and a quality of said signal.~~

6. (original) The device of claim 1 wherein said CPU is powered by a power supply selected from the group consisting of: a battery and a source of A/C power.

7. (original) The device of claim 6 wherein said battery is removably supported in said housing.

8. (original) The device of claim 6 wherein said battery is non-removably supported in said housing.

9. (original) The device of claim 6 wherein said battery is rechargeable.

10. (original) The device of claim 6 further comprising a power level monitor supported in said housing for providing a visual indication of power generated by said power supply that is available for consumption by said CPU.

11. (currently amended) The device of claim 1 wherein when said CPU is coupled to the a junction box of an antenna, said power supply supplies power to a frequency converter of the antenna.

12. (original) The device of claim 1 further comprising a support strap attached to said housing.

13. (original) The device of claim 1 further comprising a support hook attached to said housing.

14. (currently amended) A device for assessing a degree of alignment of an antenna with a signal transmitting device, comprising:

a handheld housing including display means;

signal assessment means supported in said handheld housing and attachable to the antenna for receiving a signal therefrom that is indicative of the degree of alignment between the antenna and the signal transmitting device and for assessing the received signal by extracting a bitstream from the received signal, calculating a bit error rate (BER) value of the received signal from said bitstream, calculating a carrier to noise (C/N) value of the received signal from said bitstream, and calculating an overall quality of signal based on said BER value and said C/N value; and

indicator means coupled to said signal assessment means for providing ~~at least one~~ indicator signals indicating the degree of alignment between the antenna and the signal transmitting device,

wherein said display means visually displays the BER value, ~~and~~ the C/N value, and the overall quality of signal simultaneously in response to said indicator signals.

15. (currently amended) The device of claim 14 wherein said indicator ~~comprises a~~ means provides visual indicator signals including text and graphic information that is indicative of the degree of alignment between the satellite and the signal transmitting device.

16. (currently amended) The device of claim 14 wherein said indicator ~~comprises~~ means provides an audio indicator signal that is indicative of the degree of alignment between the satellite and the signal transmitting device.

17. (currently amended) The device of claim 14 ~~16~~ wherein said indicator ~~comprises~~ means provides:

a visual indicator signals including text and graphic information that is indicative of the degree of alignment between the signal transmitting device and the antenna; ~~and~~
~~an audio indicator that is indicative of the degree of alignment between the signal transmitting device and the antenna.~~

18. (original) The device of claim 14 wherein the signal transmitting device comprises a satellite.

19. (currently amended) A device for assessing a degree of alignment of an antenna with a satellite, comprising:

a handheld housing;

a CPU supported within said handheld housing, said CPU coupled to a power supply;

a satellite communications frequency tuner supported within said handheld housing and communicating with said CPU;

a demodulator supported within said handheld housing and communicating with said tuner, said demodulator receiving a data stream from said tuner and extracting a bitstream therefrom and communicating said bitstream to said CPU,

wherein said CPU calculates a bit error rate (BER) value of the signal from said bitstream, calculates a carrier to noise (C/N) value of the signal from said bitstream, and calculates an overall quality of signal based on said BER value and said C/N value;

a display supported on said handheld housing and communicating with said CPU for receiving a display signal therefrom, said display visually displays the BER value, ~~and the C/N value,~~ and a visual indication of the degree of alignment between the antenna and the satellite based on ~~the calculated BER value, the calculated C/N value, and the~~ calculated overall quality of signal simultaneously;

converter means for converting a digital audio signal generated by said CPU as a result of said bitstream into an analog signal; and

speaker means for receiving said analog signal from said converter means and generating a corresponding audio signal.

20. (currently amended) A method for aligning an antenna with a satellite, comprising:

receiving a signal from the satellite;
calculating a BER value of the signal in a portable device;
~~displaying the calculated BER value of the signal on the portable device;~~
calculating a C/N value of the signal in the portable device;
~~displaying the calculated C/N value of the signal on the portable device;~~
calculating an overall quality of signal based on said BER value and said C/N value;

displaying the calculated BER value of the signal, the calculated C/N value, and
the calculated overall quality of signal on the portable device simultaneously; and
reorienting the antenna until the calculated BER value matches a predetermined
BER value.

21. (original) The method of claim 20 further comprising reorienting the antenna
until the calculated C/N value matches a predetermined C/N value.

22. (previously presented) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon
data and instructions which, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to:

receive a signal from a satellite;

calculate a BER value of the signal;

~~display the calculated BER value of the signal on a portable device;~~

calculate a C/N value of the signal;

~~display the calculated C/N value of the signal on the portable device;~~

calculate an overall quality of signal based on said BER value and said C/N value;

and

display the calculated BER value of the signal, the calculated C/N value, and the
calculated overall quality of signal on the portable device simultaneously.